

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6988

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR IS IE US

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 237190

1. I MET WITH FAHMY THIS MORNING TO ADVISE HIM OF WALDHEIM'S CONCERN ABOUT UNEF ESCORTING MOBIL OIL TECHNICIANS TO RAS SUDAR, WHICH IS OUTSIDE AREA COVERED BY PRESENT UNEF MANDATE. WALDHEIM'S SOLUTION, I NOTED, IS TO HAVE UNEF PICK UP TECHNICIANS AT UNEF LINE, ESCORT THEM ACROSS BUFFER ZONE AND TURN THEM OVER TO ISRAELI ESCORT AT ISRAELI LINE. ISRAELIS WOULD THEN PICK UP SECURITY OF TECHNICIANS. I NOTED SIILASVUO IS RECEIVING INSTRUCTION TO PROPOSE THIS TO EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS. ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO PRESS WALDHEIM IN ORDER UNEF TO OPERATE OUTSIDE AREA OF ITS PRESENT MANDATE. I POINTED OUT WALDHEIM'S CONCERN THIS WOULD OPEN HIM TO CRITICISM BY ALL CRITICS OF THE AGREEMENT WHEN UNEF MANDATE IS UP FOR RENEWAL. WALDHEIM IS CONCERNED THAT NEW MANDATE COULD AS A RESULT BE TIED UP IN UN DEBATE FOR SOME TIME. I NOTED ARRANGEMENT WALDHEIM IS PROPOSING DOES NOT IN ANY WAY INVOLVE BAD FAITH ON ISRAELI SIDE, BUT IS SIMPLY PROBLEM INVOLVING UN. PROBLEM OF PROVIDING FOR UN WITNESS TO TURNOVER OF OIL FIELDS TO TECHNICIANS COULD BE SUBSEQUENTLY

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ADDRESSED, BUT THERE WOULD BE NO DELAY IN MOVEMENT

OF TECHNICIANS ON SCHEDULED DATE.

2. PREDICTABLY, FAHMY REACTED NEGATIVELY. HE SCOFFED AT WALDHEIM'S POINT ABOUT POSSIBLE PROBLEMS WHEN UNEF MANDATE COMES UP FOR RENEWAL, SAYING SOVIETS WILL IN ANY CASE RAISE "HELL" AT THAT TIME. HE SUBSEQUENTLY GAVE ME SUBSTANCE OF A REPORT FROM EGYPT DEL AT UN RE POSSIBLE SOVIET INTENTIONS ON UNEF RENEWAL (SEPTTEL).

3. FAHMY NOTED WALDHEIM HAD FORMALLY CIRCULATED THE AGREEMENT AS A UNSC DOCUMENT. NONE OF THE UNSC MEMBERS HAD OBJECTED. WALDHEIM HAD ALSO INSTRUCTED SIILASVUO TO PARTICIPATE IN GENEVA TALKS TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW AGREEMENT. WALDHEIM HAD DONE THIS ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY AND PROPERLY SO. IF WALDHEIM'S LOGIC WERE TO BE FOLLOWED, FAHMY ARGUED, SIILASVUO WOULD HAVE HAD TO BE AUTHORIZED BY THE UNSC BECAUSE LATTER'S MANDATE AS UNEF COMMANDER DERIVES SOLELY FROM FIRST DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. YET WALDHEIM HAD TAKEN THE INITIATIVE AND AUTHORIZED SIILASVUO TO PROCEED.

4. FAHMY URGED THAT WE PRESS WALDHEIM TO ACT QUICKLY AND PERMIT UNEF FORCES TO ESCORT TECHNICIANS TO RAS SUDR. SIILASVUO SHOULD NOT BE INSTRUCTED QUERY ISRAELIS ALONG LINES INDICATED TO US. WE HAVE NOT YET REACHED THE STAGE OF RENEWING UNEF MANDATE AND UNEF ESCORT TO RAS SUDAR WOULD BE NO MORE THAN A PRELIMINARY STEP. THE WHOLE "RAISON D'ETRE" FOR WALDHEIM'S AND SIILASVUO'S INVOLVEMENT IS TO FURTHER THE EXPEDITIOUS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT. IN ANY CASE, NO EGYPTIANS WILL BE THERE.

5. IF SIILASVUO LATER TODAY RAISES WITH GAMASY PROPOSED WALDHEIM SOLUTION, FAHMY SAID, GAMASY WILL TURN HIM DOWN. IT IS HIGH TIME THAT WALDHEIM AND THIS "LEGALISTIC" ADVISORS SHOW LESS TIMIDITY AND ACT. FAHMY HOPED WE UNDERSTOOD GOE POSITION AND WILL ACTIVELY SUPPORT IT.

6. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO TEL AVIV.
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